With gas prices on the rise this summer, I wanted to suggest a number of simple steps you can take to lower your driving expenses:

- Because aggressive driving (speeding over 60 mph or jack rabbit accelerating) wastes gas, driving sensibly and at the speed limit can significantly increase your mileage. Using cruise control can help.
- To improve gas mileage, use your manufacturer's recommended grade of motor oil and keep your engine properly tuned and your tires properly inflated.
- Traveling light can also help, as can reducing drag by putting items in your trunk instead of on your roof.
- Avoid idling whenever possible, and combine separate short trips. Consider carpooling or taking public transit.

You can find more tips online at FuelEconomy.gov.